

REMARKS

This timely responds the Office Action mailed on March 25, 2004. Claims 1-11, 14-16 and 18-20 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 4 and 11 are independent claims.

In view of the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending objections and rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 3-7, 10, 11 and 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6,564,070 issued to Nagamine, *et al.* ("Nagamine"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

The present application claims priority from Korean Patent Application No. 97-29441, Korean Patent Application No. 97-29442 and Korean Patent Application No. 97-29443, which were filed on June 30, 1997. Nagamine was filed on September 22, 1997. Since the priority date of the present application antedates the filing date of Nagamine, Nagamine does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claims 1, 3-7, 10 and 11 and 18-20.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 8, 9 and 14-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagamine. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

As previously mentioned, Nagamine does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and hence does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 8, 9 and 14-16.

Other Matters

In this response, an English translation of each certified priority document is submitted to overcome the cited reference. As the PTO acknowledged previously, Applicants' claim for foreign priority has been previously made when the application was filed with the certified copies of the priority documents.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submits that all of the stated grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments: Certified English Translation of Priority Documents (Korean Patent Application Nos. 97-29441, 97-29442 and 97-29443)